



March 23, 2016

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Changes to rate structure
effective June 1, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians:

FACTS is proud to have served the greater Flagstaff community for more than 15 years. We always endeavor to offer quality services at the lowest price possible, and have maintained the low hourly rate of \$3.50 for nearly a decade.

However, as the years have progressed, the cost of operating the FACTS program has increased. The past two to three years we have attempted to cut back on costs while limiting the impact on the services provided to your children. These measures have helped, but are not enough to ensure the continued success and quality of FACTS.

Effective June 1, 2016, FACTS will increase our rate by .50 cents per hour per child. The new rate structure will be:

1 Child	\$ 4.00	per hour or portion thereof
2 Children	\$ 6.50	per hour or portion thereof
3 or more Children	\$ 9.00	per hour or portion thereof

Annual Registration Fee \$ 40.00 per family

Even with this change, FACTS rates continue to be among the lowest in the state for quality afterschool programs, as shown on the next page. However, we know that a rate increase can cause financial hardship for some families. FACTS will continue to offer scholarships to families as well as working with the Department of Economic Security, the City of Flagstaff, Coconino County, Northern Arizona University and Coconino Community College to provide support to our FACTS families in need.

We look forward to continuing to provide a safe, high-quality, enriching environment for children throughout the school year and during the summer months in Camp Iwannago.

Sincerely,

Travis Drake
FACTS Coordinator
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See the next page for more detailed information . . .



Want to know more?

This page provides an overview of why costs have increased and a comparison to similar programs in the State.

Why have costs increased?

- Salary and Benefit costs have increased 21.3% over recent years!
 - This is a “good news/bad news” situation. As our program quality has improved, we’ve been able to maintain quality staff longer. With staff longevity comes increases in salary.
 - Additionally, we’re pleased that our staff are now eligible for salary increases based on educational coursework or other training relevant to their work in FACTS.
 - It’s no surprise that benefit costs have increased dramatically over the past few years.
- Licensing Fees
 - FACTS is required to hold current licensing through the Arizona Department of Health Services. This is just one more component that makes ours a high-quality program and a safe environment for your child. These fees range from \$700 to \$1,300 per year per site, and represent a large increase from just five years ago.
- Healthy Snacks
 - Over the past two years, FACTS has worked closely with the State and with our snack distributor to ensure that snacks are healthy, yet still appealing to your child. Our menu is focused on snacks kids enjoy without even knowing they are whole grain, low sugar and low sodium; fresh fruits or veggies are provided once or twice a week as well. The cost of these healthier options also impacts our budget.

How do FACTS fees compare to other after-school programs in Arizona?

- We recently completed a survey of similar before- and after-school programs in Arizona, some larger, some smaller. Frankly, we were surprised by what we found. Even with this .50 per hour increase, FACTS remains one of the lowest-priced programs available.

Fees	FACTS	Comparable Programs
Hourly Rate per Child <i>FACTS lowers the rate for 2 or more children; most programs charge the same hourly rate for <u>each</u> child.</i> <i>National average \$6.00 to \$7.00/hour.</i>	\$4.00	\$4.00 to \$5.00*
Special Activities <i>Inter-mural sports, fieldtrips or outside vendors (music, tennis, disc golf, etc.).</i>	Included	Additional fees per activity
Annual Registration Fee	\$40.00/family	\$50/family to as high as \$100/child
Drop-in Charges <i>Many programs require families to have a set schedule, charging an extra fee if you use the service at a time outside the schedule on file.</i>	None	\$5.50/hour up to \$25 flat fee per occurrence
Schedule Changes <i>Programs that require an established schedule, charge a fee when a change is made to that schedule.</i>	None	\$10 to \$25

*Most programs charge by the week or month, not by the hour; these “hourly” rates are determined based on the average number of hours a child would attend. FACTS changed from weekly to hourly fees years ago. This not only gives families more flexibility, it is almost always a cost-savings for families.